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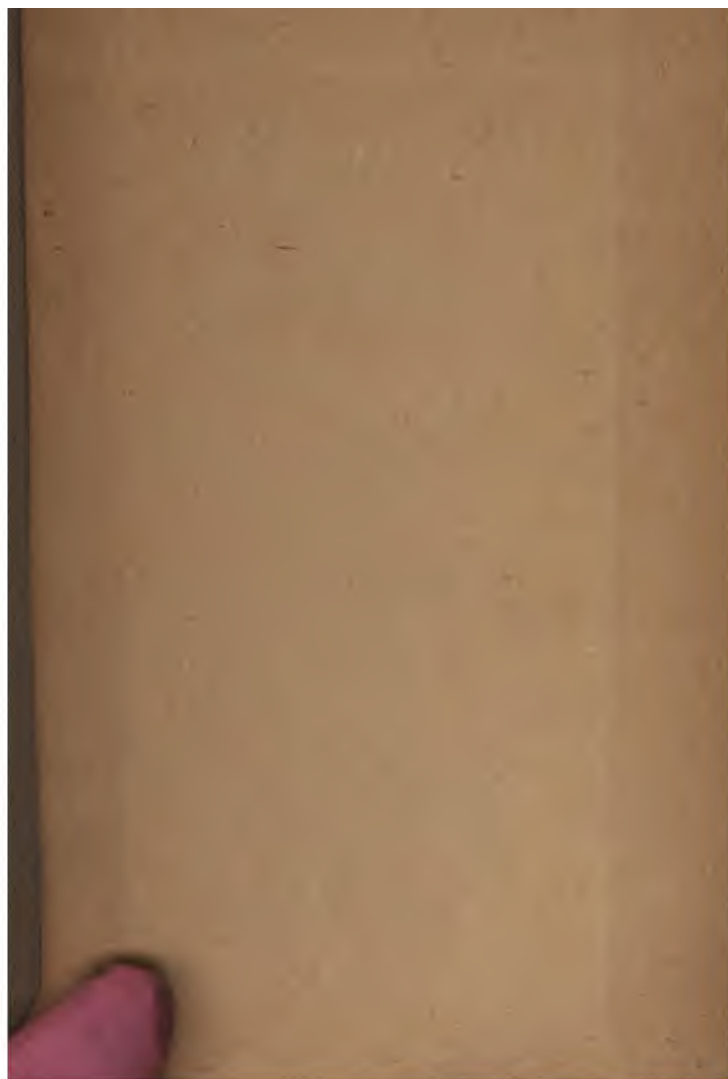
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CONSTITUTION

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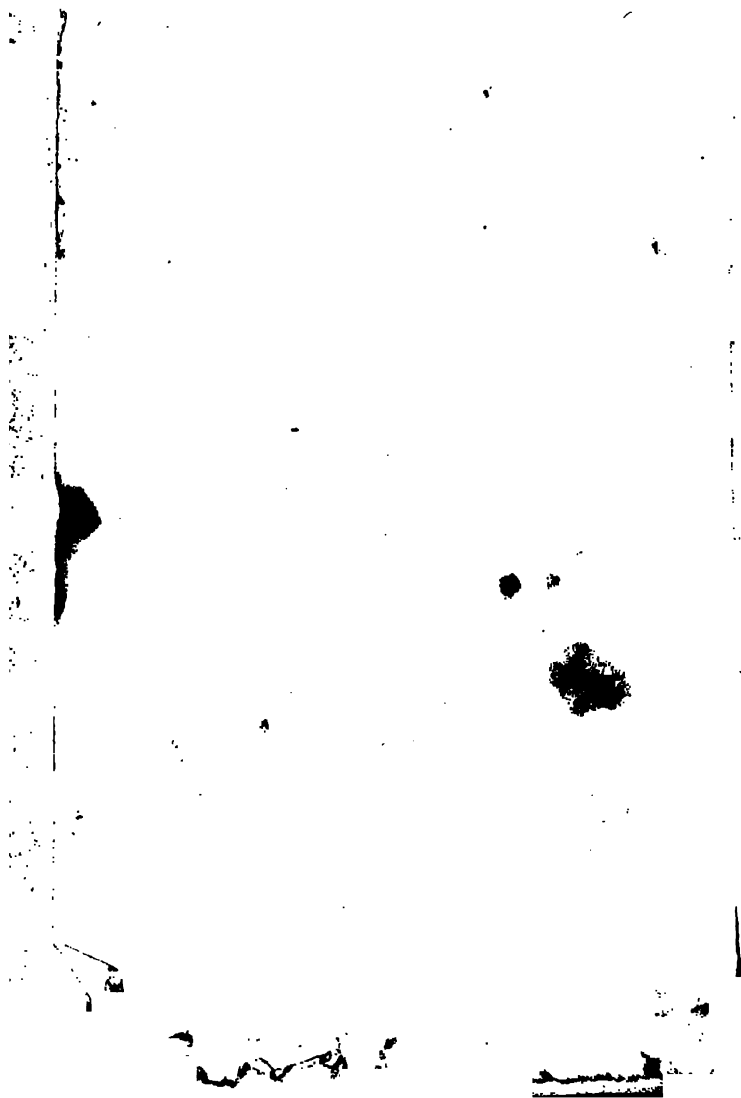
NORTH-AMERICAN ACADEMY

OF

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINE.

Founded April 10, 1835,
And opened at Allentown, May 27, 1835.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED BY J. G. WESSELHOET, No. 9, BREAD STREET.
1835.



Art. XXXIX.

As soon as the Association may deem expedient, application shall be made to the legislature of the state of Pennsylvania or to the Judges of the supreme court of the state for a Charter.

Art. XXXX.


There shall be chosen five Trustees of the Institution, whose functions (to be hereafter determined), nevertheless, shall not be compatible with those of the Directors, the Secretary and the Treasurer; and in the event of the Institution becoming a corporate body, they shall surrender their trusts to such persons as shall be designated in the Charter.

Art. XXXXI.

This Constitution may receive alterations in the course of the first year i. e., to the last Wednesday of May Eighteen hundred and thirty six inclusive, by a vote of five-sixths of the Members, and may receive additions by a vote of two-thirds of the Members. Yet such alterations or additions shall not be in contradiction to the principles herein previously expressed. Yet the Council is hereby authorized to frame such By-Laws as the welfare of the Institution may demand; provided, nevertheless, that they be not in contrariety with the articles of this Constitution, and they shall be and remain of equal force and virtue with the latter.

At a Meeting of the Council held May 27, 1835,
following Officers were elected:

President: Constantine Hering, M. D., Philadelphia. — *Vice-president:* John Romig, M. D., Allentown. — *Secretary:* Adol Bauer, Allentown. — *Treasurer:* Solomon Keck, Allentown. — *Directors:* William Wesselheft, M. D., Bath; Eberhard Fr M. D., Bethlehem; Henry Dettwiller, M. D., Hellertown; C. Becker, Kreidersville; John Rice, Allentown; C. F Allentown; Joseph Saeger, Allentown; George Keck, t burg. — *Trustees:* William Kerkert, Allentown; Rev. P H. Goepf, Bethlehem; Henry Ebner, Allentown; J. V. B. l ter, Allentown; John J. Krause, Allentown.

 The following books will shortly be published at the Academic Book Store in Allentown, viz.:

Memoirs of the North-American Academy of Homœopathia. The first Livraison.

This will contain: "The operation of the venom of Serpents, Antidotes etc." &c.

The necessity and utility of Homœopathia: an Oration delivered at Allentown, on the occasion of founding the Academy, by C. Hering, M. D. — 8vo. In German and English.

The Organon of Dr. Hahnemann. From the British translation proved and enlarged from the fifth German Edition, by C. F. Mat M. D., with an Introduction by C. Hering, M. D. 8vo.

Jahr's Manual of Homœopathic Medicine. Translated from the man, with improvements and additions by C. Hering, M. D. two Vol. 8vo.

1971

PREAMBLE.

We the subscribers, as the result of our united deliberations have unanimously resolved as follows, viz.:

A.

That the extension of Homœopathic Medicine in the United States would be an event of memorable importance, for the following reasons.

- 1) Because the lives of thousands of our citizens would thereby be preserved, who, partly in consequence of the abuse of medicines and partly from neglecting to employ the newly discovered specific remedies, are now annually consigned to a premature grave *).
- 2) Because a very large proportion of chronic diseases can thereby be prevented, cured or mitigated, and thus an incalculable amount of power would be acquired by the country.
- 3) Because by means of the permanent influence of Homœopathia many of the enervating vices of youth which in a great measure arise from disease, as well as many vicious propensities and desires, such as a fondness for ardent spirits, melancholy, a tendency to suicide

*) In proof of this assertion we need only refer to the victims of Cholera infantum, inflammation of the lungs, nervous or typhus fevers, dysentery, measles, scarlet and bilious fevers etc.

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and the like, can be cured. Hence we are led to believe that the general introduction of Homœopathia will exercise a very beneficial influence upon the moral character of the nation.

4) Because by the general extension of Homœopathia the enormous tax upon our citizens for drugs and nostrums, deleterious aromatics and stimulants, will be reduced to an inconsiderable sum, and Hospitals and other institutions for the sick will be spared a large proportion of their expenditures; not to mention that then only would their capacity for the beneficial effects be exercised to the fullest extent.

B.

The diffusion of Homœopathia in the United States is not, indeed, opposed as it is in Germany by the enforcement of obsolete laws, yet here there are other impediments with which it must contend, among which the following may be enumerated:

1) Homœopathia derived its origin and was first cultivated in Germany; the works which treat on the subject are written in the German language and contain many of the less current words and forms of expression. These works have been but partly translated into French, there are, as yet, no English versions at all adapted to the purposes of study or practice, and consequently those who are unacquainted with the German language can receive through the French, only a partial and imperfect knowledge of the system; but if a familiarity with the

latter tongue be wanting, they must remain for all practical purposes, in entire ignorance of Homœopathia.

2) The works devoted to Homœopathia have been written by different physicians from time to time within the space of nearly 40 years, amid the assaults of adversaries and a paper warfare, hence the requisite knowledge for the physician, even should he possess a competent familiarity with the German, can only be acquired by the perusal of many books and at the expense of much labour, time and money. Deterred by these difficulties even many German physicians themselves and others acquainted with the language have either wholly neglected the study, or remained with a partial knowledge of it; hence it may readily be conceived, that to those physicians who do not read the German, the difficulties must be greatly increased.

3) Even individuals who do not hesitate to incur these unavoidable expenses, will find it a matter of no small difficulty to acquire a mastery of the new art, whilst they remain restricted to the solitary study of books without the advantages derived from practical guidance, or an opportunity, in difficult cases, of consulting their more experienced brethren. For this reason, experiments undertaken by those who are inclined to test the new doctrines, must prove abortive; and hence doubts have arisen as to their truth and validity; while the cause of failure could be justly imputed only to a deficient knowledge of the practice. Had these experiments

been conducted under the direction of an experienced hand, the results would have been widely different and every doubt would be soon dissipated.

Young men who wish to become finished practitioners of Homeopathia are yet wholly unfurnished with such practical direction; together with a course of clinical instruction, and hence the deficiency of the number of such physicians is already felt and constantly increasing, which, indeed, constitutes one of the prominent impediments to its farther extension.

4) The new doctrines which lead back to the simplicity of nature, by which every cure is based not upon imaginary hypotheses, but upon the laws of nature herself, find here and there, it is true, a degree of opposition in the prejudices of the people. These having been accustomed to the harsh and assaulting method of their physicians, are taught to consider such practice as indispensable.

Nevertheless, the citizens, for the most part, however practised in judgment, however accustomed to genuine reflection as well on that which concerns their faith and worship, as in matter of politics and of jurisprudence, however sagacious in the discrimination and choice of the most useful in their daily vocations — in their agricultural, manufacturing and commercial pursuits, are yet but badly instructed in relation to their physical life and health, in the nature of diseases, and what is needful for their cure and what injurious; in short, the grossest pre-

judices and errors upon these subjects are yet generally prevalent *).

C.

To remove these impediments out of the way as soon as possible we consider the following means appropriate:

The difficulties offered by the language and literature of Germany may, indeed, be partly removed by the circulation of French translations. But this expedient is *circumscribed* on the one hand by the want of a general and competent knowledge of that language; and on the other *imperfect*, — by reason of the necessary dependence upon that only which the French have translated. Moreover, in regard to the scattered condition of the more important matter, these translations are liable to the same objections as apply to the German works; besides, when we consider how much in Homœopathia depends upon the phraseology, it is easy to perceive that much must be entirely lost, as it were, by a twofold translation; for it would then be necessary to read in one foreign language that which has been drawn from

*) The cause of this is to be found partly in the defective knowledge of many physicians, or in their unseemly condescension, whereby they are restrained from attacking the erroneous notions of their employers; and partly to the excessive influence of the large number of those individuals who derive emolument from the diseases of others by means of frequent visits, numerous prescriptions, the sale of drugs, venæsection, extracting teeth and the like, and who not only gain their living, but also acquire wealth by these means.

another; — this proposed expedient, therefore, offers a most imperfect remedy.

Much more may be expected from translations into the English; yet this also is attended by serious difficulties: a) for, not having, as yet, any work which in itself embraces the *entire system* of Homœopathia, only the isolated and scattered parts of it can be translated. b) The individual expressions, on which so much depends for ascertaining the characteristics of remedies render a *precise* version very difficult. c) Physicians who are dependent upon translations of uncertain fidelity and who are necessarily restricted to what may happen to be translated merely, must be content to lag behind those who read and understand the originals. The English translations, moreover, will follow but slowly and tediously the ever progressive march of German literature. Although, indeed, we consider it as an object of great importance, that works indispensable to the physicians for testing the principles of Homœopathia, as well as that tracts designed to inform the public should be rendered into English, and notwithstanding we regard it as a highly meritorious undertaking to prepare such translations with precision and care, and consider it our duty to exercise a vigilant eye over their fidelity and purity, yet we cannot recognise this as the principal means for the extension of Homœopathia. As the result of such a course, if nothing else, we should be promoted to a practice of the new art at once superficial and negligent, we should effect but a partial acknowledgmen

the system, and from those who would remain satisfied with a half-way knowledge, we might soon expect a convenient medley of the old and new systems together as the *non plus ultra*.

In our view, the principal means to effect the object in question would be an Institution based upon the language and science of Germany. It is thus alone that physicians can attain their knowledge of the new art from its source, without which no radical knowledge of Homœopathia is possible. By such an Institution alone can physicians be constantly educated, who shall be furnished with an adequate knowledge of remedies; by such alone can provision be made for the editing of the needful Homœopathic works for the United States in the German as well as in the English language. In the prosecution of our object, therefore, we conceive that an Institution of this kind only, can prove of utility to the United States and redound to their honour. — It is only as German science in its purity is planted upon an American soil, that it can shed abroad its blessings; and the new Science of German origin can be here duly promoted and perfected only by means of such an Institution.

Without such a seminary, and should practitioners here be less radically instructed in the new art than in Germany, in a short time infallibly, the physicians who are instructed in the German manner emigrating from that country, or others thus instructed, will acquire such a preponderance with the public, that thereby a door

will be opened to adventurers, and misunderstandings will arise without number. All these disagreeable results can be prevented by an Institution of which we have given the outline, wherein physicians will be instructed equal in qualifications to those of Germany.

But the only means by which a German institution can be availing to those who understand English only; the means by which alone it can acquire an extensive influence, consist in making ample provision in the first place „FOR FACILITATING THE ACQUISITION OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE“.

We therefore consider as a measure peculiarly appropriate, the foundation of an Institution, wherein young physicians unacquainted with the German, may be duly instructed in that language, having constant reference to Medicine and to Homœopathia in particular. As this can be very well associated with instruction in Homœopathia, both would thereby be facilitated.

We intend, also, by means of text-books specially adapted to the study of Medicine, to render the acquisition of it much easier; and in this manner the reading and comprehension of German authors may be acquired in a very short time. The first two Americans who without any previous knowledge of the German engaged in the study of Homœopathia, have set a commendable example to their countrymen, and have in a very short time acquired so much knowledge of that language, that without enjoying the advantages of systematic instruction to facilitate their studies, they have, nevertheless,

been enabled to read and comprehend all the Homœopathic works.

Concerning the impediments to the acquisition of Homœopathic science. If older practitioners should wish to acquire a knowledge of the new art, or if they already practice it and would perfect their studies, these ends cannot be better attained than by forming an association, wherein they may have an opportunity of exchanging their experience, and by receiving and imparting counsel, gain mutual instruction. The utility of such an association would be increased in proportion to its extent; hence individuals who dwell at too great a distance to convene in person, might take part therein by epistolary correspondence.

Moreover, such whose time will permit, ought to devote some days or weeks exclusively to their own instruction and to convene in a place where such instruction could be given. For this purpose some central locality should be determined upon, suitable for a convention, to be conducted partly in person and partly by correspondence. As a permanent means of promoting mutual instruction, it would be necessary not only to establish a library there, but also manuscripts, which may be denominated *Manuscript Archives*, designed as follows:

Physicians should transmit such of their observations and experience as may be worthy of preservation, as, for example, the new symptoms of remedies; observations of their newly tested therapeutic virtues (neue Anzeigen), together with other practical experience and

theoretical propositions, for the purpose of being inscribed in these Archives, where they could remain and be preserved for permanent mutual advantage. This, however, can only become profitable by the appointment of a Homœopathic physician to register these experiences in books, specially designed for the purpose.

If a person of competent acquirements be commissioned with the labour of registering and arranging all the experience hitherto made, and which are scattered throughout numerous Homœopathic works, and also that which is new and constantly published in medical periodicals and other writings, then the Manuscript Archives in a few years will be complete: that is to say, will comprehend all the experience which Homœopathic physicians have communicated. Being constantly preserved in this state of completion, it would prove of extraordinary use by aiding the studies of Homœopathic physicians in important cases, as well as very advantageous by the publication of new experiences.

For younger physicians, who intend to receive instruction in Homœopathia, a seminary should be instituted in the same place. Students who are desirous of perfecting their studies and of becoming physicians, must also, primarily, enjoy the opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of the requisite fundamental sciences ancillary to medicine.

As well for purposes of clinical instruction so indispensable to the physician and in an especial manner to the student for acquiring a knowledge of Homœopathia,

we regard the establishment of an *Infirmary for the Poor* as a measure of obvious necessity and altogether in unison with the beneficent designs of the Institution. An opportunity would hereby be afforded, moreover, of furnishing public attestation to the validity and truth of the Hahnemannian Doctrines. If several Homœopathic Physicians, Professors and Students were associated in such an establishment, others for the same purpose could be united with it, by which the diffusion of Homœopathia and the pecuniary interests of the whole would be promoted. For, the Institution affording no moneyed speculation to the contributors and serving merely for the purpose of scientific instruction must derive from itself the necessary funds for its own support. For example: an infirmary for children affected with Scrofula, Eruptions and the like — diseases which, for the most part, had previously been considered incurable. This establishment being also charged with the task of rearing and educating such children would give employment to students in restricted circumstances, as well as afford them an opportunity of earning their own living.

The means for combatting the impediments which arise from the deficient information and the prejudices of the public, present no peculiar difficulties after adverting to what has already been expressed.

D.

Having duly considered how advantageous and conducive to the common good would be the farther

extension and more firm establishment of Homœopathia within the United States (under A.), and reflected upon the impediments which offer against the attainment of this important object (under B.), likewise upon the means which appear the most conducive to their removal (under C.), we cannot doubt of the possibility of rendering these means effectual. Because, being convinced of the unshaken verity of the new Doctrines, we confide in the certain triumph of truth over all her enemies, and by reason of the happy freedom which every where reigns over this country and the enterprising spirit of its citizens, we are warranted in undertakings which in other countries and under other circumstances would be deemed chimerical, if not impossible.

Wherefore we have resolved upon the adoption of the following Constitution, viz.:

CONSTITUTION.

Art. I.

We the subscribers hereby unite in forming an Association, whose object shall be the foundation and maintenance of a „literary and clinical Institution“ under the name and title of

„The North-American Academy of Homœopathic Medicine“.

Art. II.

The Academy shall consider every member of a Homœopathic Society in the United States as a member of its own body, and shall grant to all, equal privileges in the use of what has been accomplished by means of its enterprize, according to conditions hereafter mentioned, without demanding therefor, generally, a stipulated contribution.

Art. III.

The Academy reserves to itself the privilege of receiving into membership others who are not members of a Homœopathic Society under conditions to be hereafter specified, and also to appoint foreigners of known merit in Homœopathia, as corresponding and honorary members.

Art. IV.

The funds for instituting the Academy being raised by stocks and other loans, it therefore demands no donations, but shall consider every contribution made to it in money or its equivalent, as a loan; it shall grant certificates for the same, but in no case declare a larger Dividend than 6 pr. Ct. per annum.

Art. V.

The Academy shall be and remain under the direction of a permanent body or Council, who shall consist of the first contributors to this Institution.

Art. VI.

Any person contributing a stockloan of Fifty Dollars to the Academy shall be considered a member of the Council, and as such be entitled to one vote; nevertheless, admission to a seat in the Council shall no longer be granted from and after the period when Seven thousand five hundred dollars shall have been subscribed. Subject, however, to alterations provided for in the 41st Article. (Hereby, however, it is not intended to prohibit the raising of loans under other conditions.)

Art. VII.

As every stockshare of Fifty Dollars entitles the shareholder to one vote in the Council, the whole number of votes therein shall hereafter be limited to one hundred and fifty, and this number shall be increased only within the terms limited in the 41st Article.

Art. VIII.

Any member may hold a plurality of shares of stock, but shall not be entitled to more than two votes in his own person, yet, if he hold more than two shares he shall have the privilege of introducing into the Council not exceeding four men, at his pleasure, who are known to him as zealous and active friends of Homœopathia, in order to furnish additional votes in questions before that body, which questions shall be decided by a majority of votes in the same; nevertheless, the choice remains with the shareholder, whether he will give two votes by one person or resolve on a separate vote for each several share. If he choose not to avail himself of this privilege, — or if the individuals proposed by him be not sanctioned by the Council, the additional votes shall remain at the

disposal of the Council, who shall assign them as they may judge expedient.

Art. IX.

According to Art. VII. The whole number of votes shall constantly remain the same; if, therefore, a vacancy should occur in the Council by the death or resignation of a member, his vote shall revert to that body, and it shall bestow the same by resolution on any individual whom it may deem suitable to designate and appoint; nevertheless, preference shall be given, in so bestowing the vote, to such who have been educated in the institution, and to such who had severally subscribed, first after the subscription to the stock is closed; provided that the sums severally subscribed by the latter shall each amount to not less than Fifty dollars.

Art. X.

No member shall sell out or otherwise transfer his right of suffrage unless by permission first had and obtained of the Council. Nevertheless, an absent member may vote by proxy. And when a proxy is authorized to offer more than four votes he shall pass over the additional number to other qualified voters, to be by them duly presented.

Art. XI.

One third of the members being entitled to two thirds of the votes in the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. XII.

The Council or instead thereof the Directors shall exercise vigilance over the proper and provident use of the property belonging to the Institution, and shall decide upon all undertakings relating to the expenditure of monies.

Art. XIII.

The Council shall elect out of its own body a President and Vice-President, both of whom shall be men of literary education, and a Secretary for the affairs of the Academy, a Treasurer and a certain number of Directors as the Executive Officers of the whole, and also all Stewards or other persons who may be entrusted with any part of the property belonging to the Institution.

Art. XIV.

The President shall be chosen for four years; the Vice-President, Secretary and Directors for one year.

Art. XV.

It shall be the duty of the President to preserve order in the meetings; he shall have the superintendence and direction of the business of the Council, according to instructions hereafter to be given, and if there be an equal division on any question, the President shall give the casting vote.

Art. XVI.

In the absence of or by a commission from the President, his duty in the Council shall devolve on the Vice-President who shall be President of the Directors over whom he shall exercise controlling jurisdiction. In both cases when the votes are equally divided, he shall have the deciding vote.

Art. XVII.

The Secretary shall keep correct minutes of the proceedings at the meetings and perform all the writings relating to the business of the Council and of the Academy.

Art. XVIII.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all the monies due the society and to make disbursements on being previously authorised; he shall render a statement of his accounts annually, or by special request at any

other time, and he shall be required to give satisfactory surety for the faithful performance of his duties.

Art. XIX.

There shall be eight Directors, a moiety of whom shall be persons who are not of the medical profession, the rest shall consist of Homœopathic physicians, and among whom the Professors of the Academy may be included. The one half of the whole number of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Art. XX.

The Directors shall act upon all conclusions decided upon and committed to them by the Council, and they shall have the administrations of all monies and other property belonging to the Academy; but they shall never appropriate such money or other property or any part thereof to their own use, nor receive the same as a compensation for their services.

Art. XXI.

The Directors shall represent the Council, and during its recess, shall have the same jurisdiction in respect to business; but they shall, nevertheless, be responsible for their transactions. The President of the Academy may be present at the meetings of the Directors.

Art. XXII.

For the scientific department of the Academy, are constituted the Faculty, who shall consist of the President and Professors of the Academy, with whom, four physicians as assessors shall be associated by the Directors.

Art. XXIII.

The Faculty shall appoint the Professors, but the power of approving or annulling such appointments shall rest with the Directors.

Art. XXIV.

Such persons only shall be chosen Professors, of whose scientific qualifications, as well as of their fitness or ability to impart instruction, the members shall have been previously convinced. They shall also be men who have given sufficient evidence of their zeal for Homœopathia, as well as their favourable disposition to the Liberty of the United States; and they must either be citizens of the same, or have made application to become naturalized.

Art. XXV.

The Faculty shall have the exclusive right of examining for the degree of Doctor and for other promotions.

Art. XXVI.

The Faculty shall deliberate concerning all the scientific undertakings of the Institution, and lay their conclusions before the Directors, who shall have the right to ratify or annul the same.

Art. XXVII.

The Academy shall establish a *Library* and appoint a Librarian to superintend the same, together with the necessary Assistants.

Art. XXVIII.

The Academy shall provide itself with *Manuscript Archives* and appoint a keeper (and furnish him with the necessary Assistants) to have the care thereof, as well as of the scientific productions of the Institution; for example, of Journals, Text-books etc., as shall more particularly hereafter be explained.

Art. XXIX.

The literary Institution according to the express design of its foundation shall be as comprehensive in its operations as possible, and will embrace the following branches of study as indispensable to the complete edu-

education of the physician, viz.: Clinical instruction, Examination of the sick and Semeiotics; Pharmacodynamics and Materia Medica; Pharmaceutics and Medical Botany; Dietetics; Special Therapeutics, Surgery and Obstetrics; Medical Jurisprudence; General Therapeutics; Symptomatology and human Pathology; Physiology and Anatomy; comparative Anatomy and comparative Physiology; Zoology, Phytology and Mineralogy; Chemistry, Physics, Geology, Astronomy and Mathematics; History of Medicine and of Natural Sciences; the Greek, Latin and German languages as preparatory studies.

Art. XXX.

In all the establishments for the sick, as the Clinic, the Hospital, the Infirmary for sick children and others, and at the Office for correspondence with patients at a distance, the medical treatment shall accord with the principles of pure Homœopathia.

Art. XXXI.

Inasmuch as the Institution has a beneficent object in view, an Alms House shall be erected, and students in restricted circumstances shall be supported whenever the funds will permit.

Art. XXXII.

As the Institution, conformably to the principles announced in the preamble, commences with a German character, the minuting of all its transactions shall be conducted in the German language, and the language employed as the medium of instruction in the Institution, particularly, shall be the German.

Art. XXXIII.

The Institution shall provide an academical Seal to affix to its public Documents.

